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THE CLASSICAL JOURNAL

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Editorial

ABSOLUTE AND RELATIVE

When we hear that "only 39 per cent of the students in secondary schools now study Latin," we are apt to take a gloomy view of the situation, and those who make the statement generally intend to produce this view. But percentages, i.e., relative numbers, are likely to mislead, and, considering the fact that in the past quarter-century the high-school curriculum has been vastly expanded, that a great variety of new and interesting subjects has been offered to the student, and that numerous technical and commercial high schools have been established, it is not strange or damaging to Latin that it no longer draws as large a percentage of high-school students as formerly. The important thing is (and this is too frequently unknown or overlooked) that Latin not only maintains its absolute enrolment, but has actually increased this. According to Commissioner of Education Claxton's recent report, during the five years 1910-15 the Latin enrolment in secondary schools advanced from 400,000 to 500,000 (round numbers). Such a showing as this as to the country-wide status of Latin in the secondary schools certainly presents no reason for depression in the classical ranks.

OUR CONSTITUTION

[Although the Classical Association of the Middle West and South has been working under a constitution from the date of its organization, May 5, 1905, this constitution has never been published. At the annual meeting in April last, at Louisville, the matter of publication was brought up and recommended, on the ground that

our membership at large had a right to be fully informed as to this important feature of our organization. The Association accordingly voted that the constitution should be published in an early number of the *Journal*.]

ARTICLE I

NAME AND OBJECT OF THE ASSOCIATION

SECTION 1. This organization shall be known as the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. Its object shall be the advancement of classical learning, the encouragement of classical studies within the territory indicated, and the promotion of the common interests of its members through its meetings and publications.

ARTICLE II

OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers shall be a President; a number of Vice-Presidents, to correspond with the number of states participating in the Association, one to be chosen from each state; of these vice-presidents one shall be designated as First Vice-President, to preside in the absence of the President, and to succeed him in the event of a vacancy in that office; and a Secretary-Treasurer.

SEC. 2. There shall be an Executive Committee, consisting of the President, the First Vice-President, the Secretary-Treasurer, and four additional members to be elected by the Association. Of these four additional members, one shall at the first election be named for a term of four years, one for a term of three years, one for a term of two years, and one for a term of one year. Thereafter one member shall be elected annually to serve for a period of four years.

SEC. 3. There shall be a program committee constituted according to the provisions of Article V.

SEC. 4. The election of officers shall take place at the second business session of each regular annual meeting.

ARTICLE III

MEETINGS

SECTION 1. There shall be a regular annual meeting at such time and place as the Association at a preceding meeting shall have named.

SEC. 2. The arrangements for all meetings shall be under the general direction of the Executive Committee.

SEC. 3. Special meetings of the Association may be held at the call of the Executive Committee, at such time and place as they may determine.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Any person resident within the territory designated by the name of the Association and approved by the Executive Committee may become a member on payment of the annual dues for the current fiscal year.

SEC. 2. The annual dues for each member shall be two dollars. Membership in the Association may be terminated if the annual dues of any member remain unpaid.

ARTICLE V

PROGRAM

The program of papers and addresses to be presented at the meetings of the Association shall be arranged by a committee which shall consist of the President, the Secretary-Treasurer, and a third member to be appointed by them. The President of the Association shall act as chairman of this committee.

ARTICLE VI

PUBLICATIONS

All publications of the Association, with the exception of announcements etc., shall be under the charge of a board of editors, to be appointed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII

AMENDMENTS

Changes in the above Constitution may be made by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting, when written notice of such change has been made at the regular meeting preceding, and has been deposited with the Secretary-Treasurer.